Gettin'

Hitched

Two separate stories of getting married:

Part I: Amanda and Ross to be married
on June 23, 2007

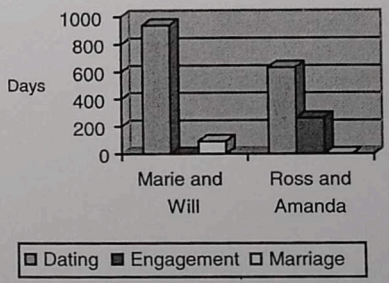
as told by
Ross Walenga

Part II: Will and Marie married
on February 20, 2007

as told by
Marie Sudduth

The following is a documentation of two very different experiences with the process of getting married.

Relationship Statistics as of May 24, 2007



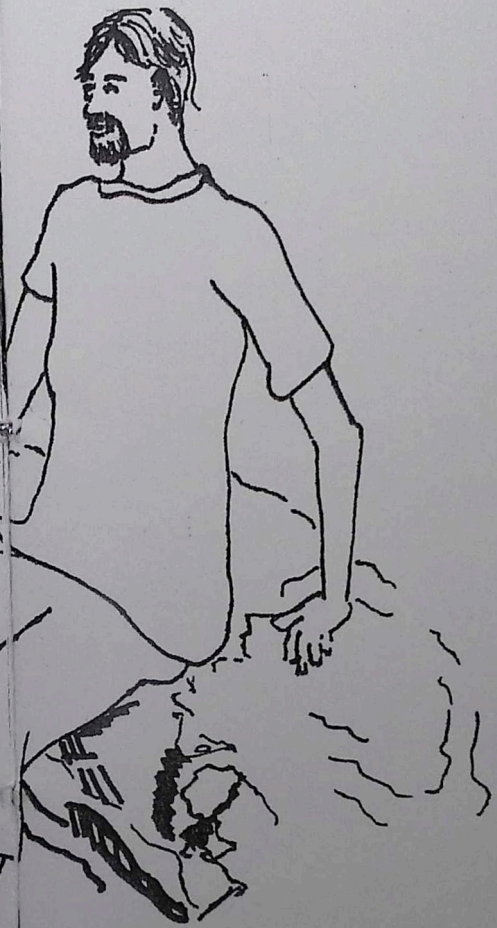
Amanda & Ross

To Be Married:
June 23, 2007

I had been planning to propose for about two months, and it kept being delayed because of that ring. My mom had offered to give me my grandmother's diamond, so I was spending my time looking on the information superhighway for a ring to go with it. It was inevitable that she would find out. Soon, it was talk of "the ring" at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. We both had enough of it, and as soon as I got wind of that, I resolved to ask without a ring.

The James River seemed like a good place to propose because I felt that God had brought us together, so what better place to profess my love for her than the river, God's own handiwork? Finally, the day came (August 25, 2006), and she had no idea after several successful, although unintentional, fake-outs. I was still unsure as to how I would do it (on my knees)? When we made it to the river she auto-matically put her feet in the water, and I resisted because I had a nasty case of Athlete's Foot at the time. She kept pushing though, and eventually I thought, "Why not?"

So, there we are, with our feet in the water, leaving me to ponder what comes next. The moment struck me as so beautiful, with her drawing me out of my scared and controlled world, at least for a moment. So I turned to her, took her hand, and spoke: "Amanda, I want to spend the rest of my life with you. Will you marry me?" (Cue the orchestra) She told me, "Of course I do," and we spent the rest of the evening celebrating with friends.



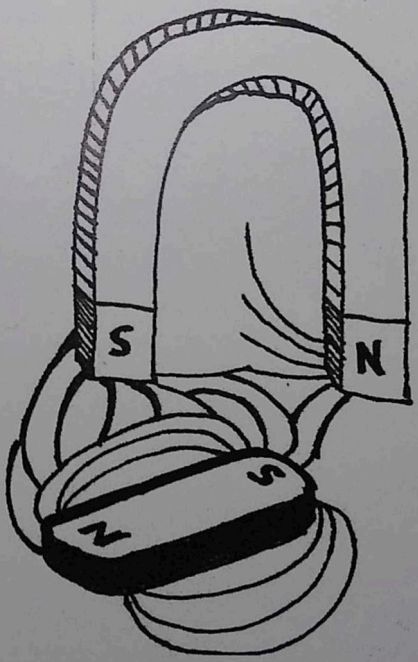
On Waiting...

When Amanda and I get married it will be two and a half years since we started dating. Many people have often remarked that we never seem to fight with each other. This is mostly true. One point of contention exists: living our Catholic faith as unmarried couples. For much of our relationship we have disagreed on how far we want to go physically. She usually wants to do more than I do, because she has questioned the value of waiting until marriage. She felt that if two people love each other, and they are committed to

being married at some point, then there would be no contradiction. To me, I feel that until a couple actually makes a commitment, it is unwise to have sex because it could result in a greater hurt if the couple were to break up. Also, I believe sex it a reaffirmation of the vows a married couple makes, so to do so before marriage is inconsistent.

This disagreement has often caused considerable tension between us. We even broke up for about thirty seconds or so, once. However, no matter how often we would fight (at least once a month), we always felt that we were

being drawn back together by a higher power. Both of us have gotten so fed up that one wrong word from either of us could have ended it. I think in the end we both decided that we are too good together to break up.



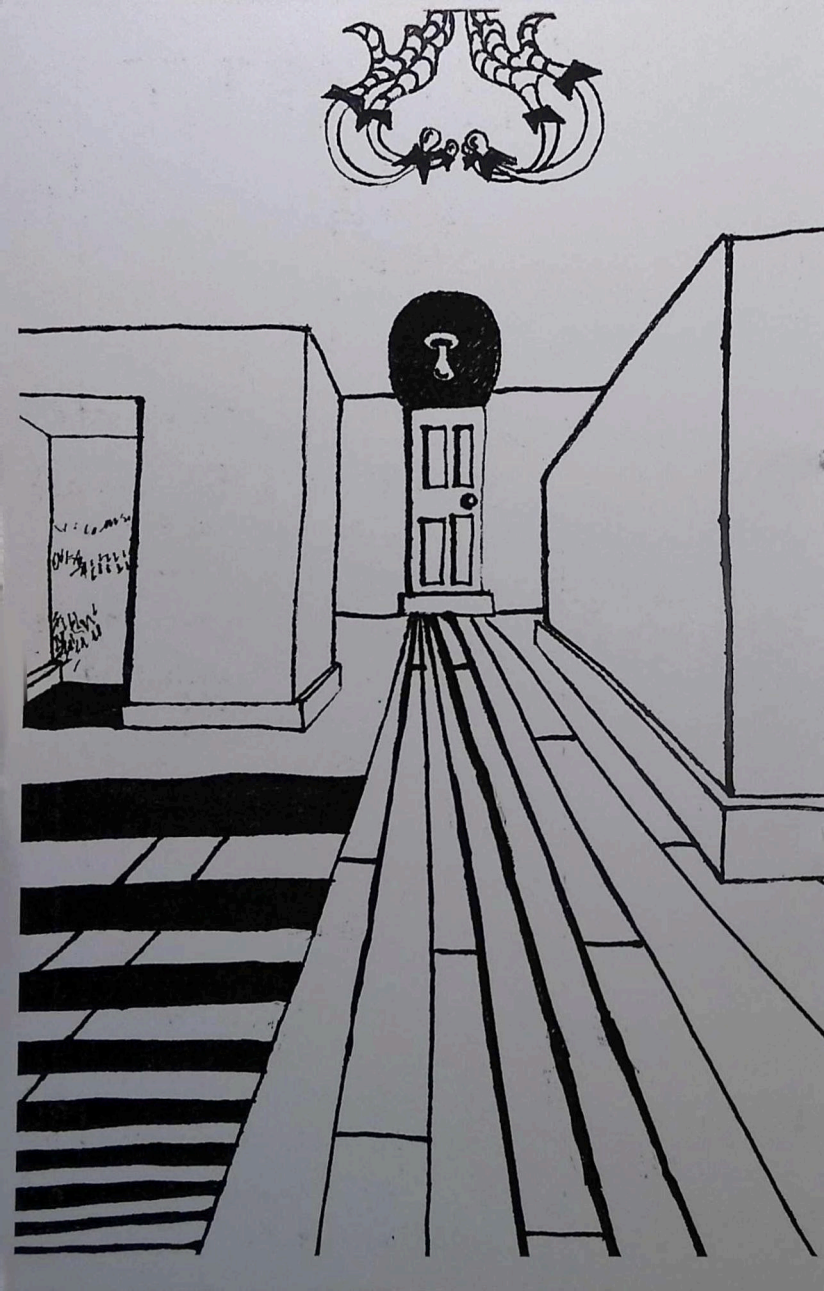
My Favorite Ukrop's Meal

Baked Mediterranean Pasta

Route 11 Potato Chips

Switch Carbonated Fruit Juice

We have been trying to eat dinner together every night for so long I don't remember when we decided to do that. No matter how busy we get, we try to take at least an hour every day. It's nice to know that I will see her on those days when every moment brings another ounce of stress. Some days it is hard, though, because its feels like I will never have enough time to finish all my work; it's the perfectionist in me. We're creatures of habit: we usually get pre-made food from Ukrop's, eat it at her house, and then recount the events of our day.



APARTMENT

HUNTING

1st Decide what you need. Three bedroom houses with all utilities included does not exist. You need to let that go; all houses require that you handle the utilities.

Realistically, you are going to have to give up several things you want, unless you want to pay $1000 a month !!!

2nd RESIST your first offer. Maybe there is a parallel universe where the first offer is the best...

3rd Beware of people who dress nicely and show shoddy apartments.

4th Be assertive, persistent, and above all, patient. The best option often shows up when you are ready to give up.

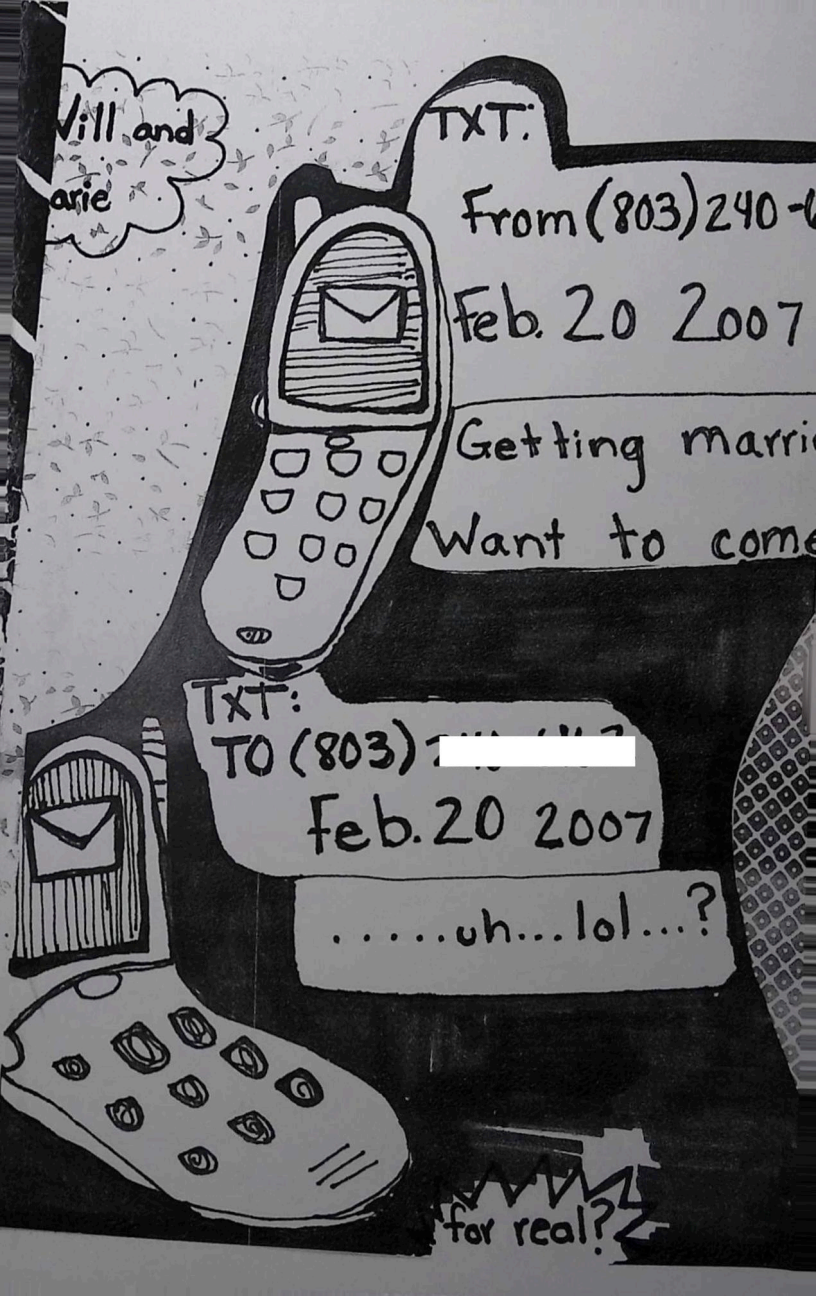
After Amanda and Ross secured an apartment at 118 S. Colonial Avenue (having used the apartment hunting tips, of course), they find themselves ready to be

MARRIED next month.

Another story happened sometime in February of 2007…

On the night of February 19th, Will announced his plans to

marry Marie the next day to everyone at the bar. This was news to Marie.

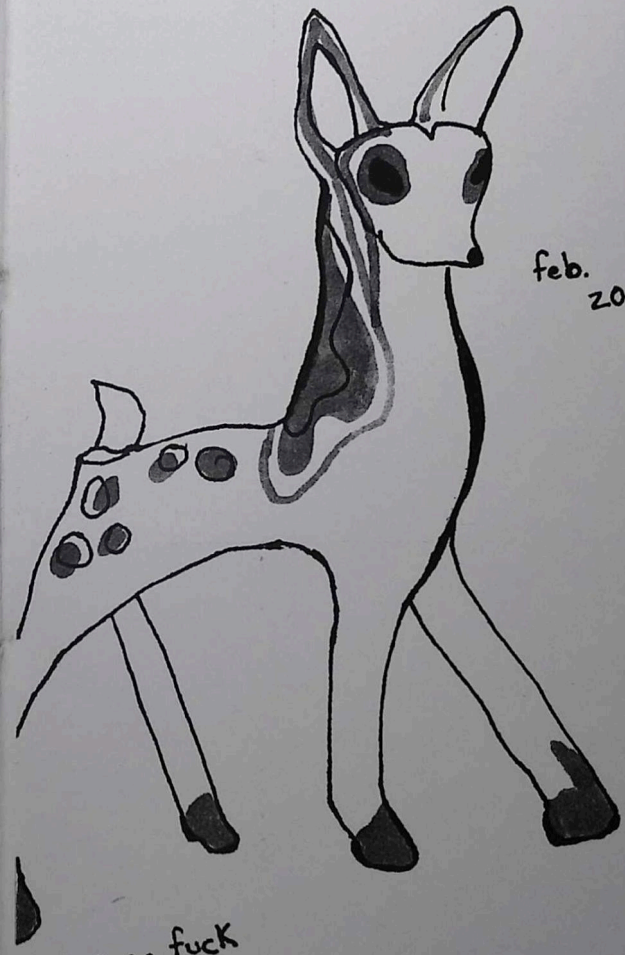

Will and
arie
TXT:
From (803) 240-
Feb. 20 2007
Getting marri
Want to come
TXT:
TO (803)
Feb. 20 2007
.....uh...lol...?
for real?

Summer 2004

I Knew the following facts, that we both agreed on.

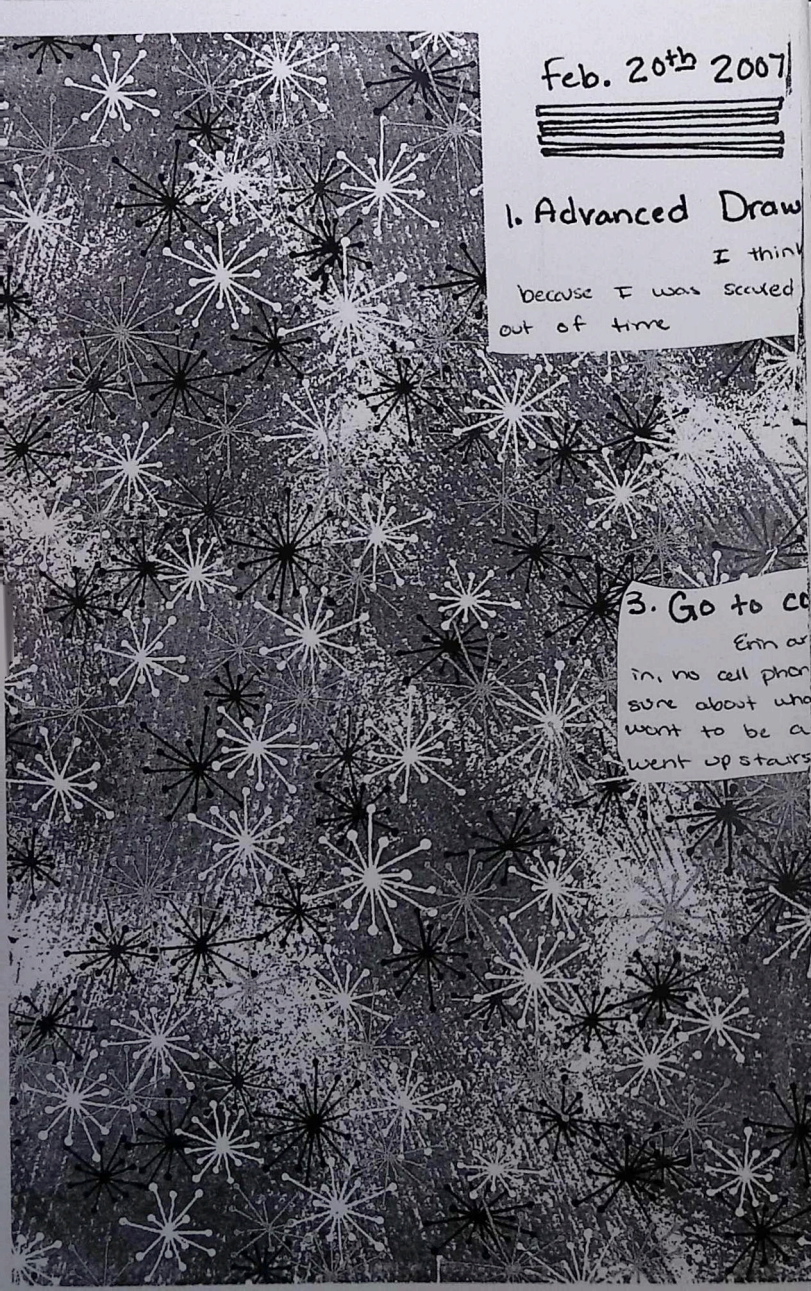
1. A woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle.
2. marriage is a scam
3. Forever is a unrealilistic ideal, and goes against every natural instinct people have
4. Titles like 'boyfriend' 'girlfriend' 'husband' and 'wife' were all titles that stripped away one's identity and placed the individual only in context to another person

5. you are the only person to take facts 1-4 and make me re think all of my ideals....



feb. 20, 2007

. . . . . fucK



Feb. 20th 2007

1. Advanced Draw

I think

because I was scared

out of time

3. Go to co

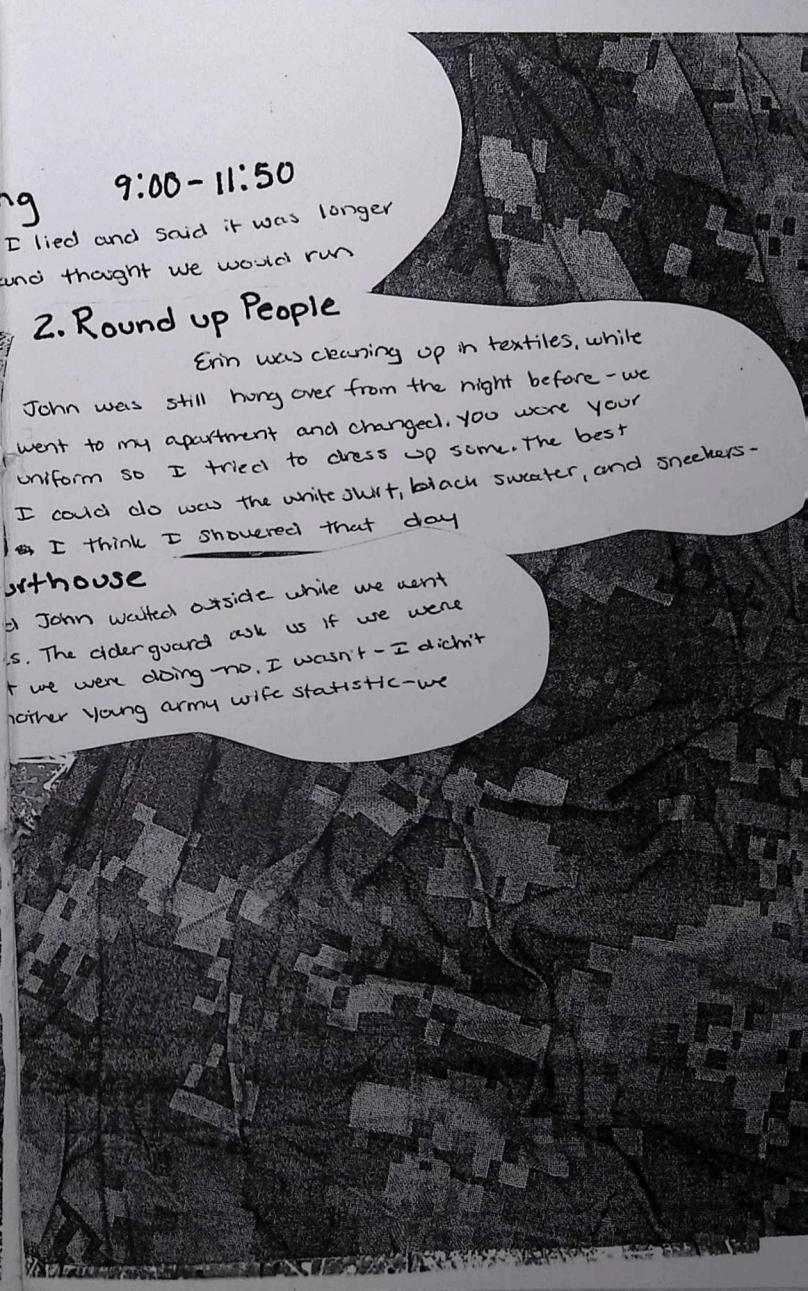
Erin ar

in, no cell phon

sure about who

want to be a

went up stairs



ng 9:00 - 11:50

I lied and said it was longer
and thought we would run

2. Round up People

Erin was cleaning up in textiles, while John was still hung over from the night before - we went to my apartment and changed. You were your uniform so I tried to dress up some. The best I could do was the white shirt, black sweater, and sneakers - I think I showered that day

urthouse

d John waited outside while we went
s. The elder guard ask us if we were
t we were dating - no. I wasn't - I didn't
neither young army wife statistic - we

4. The Marriage Certificate

processed by Yvonne G. Smith, we g
and paid $160. A slighty older couple came
had planned a wedding for two years and it w
the upcoming Saturday, another guy came in
for his hunting certificate - very romantic - n
fill out the paperwork, get your informatio
A.I.D.S. and STDs, get the paper - good
no one else thought it was unusual, just
business transaction - didn't we look rea

n, they
us [illegible] on
by himself
questions,
on
to go -
another
young?

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

OFFICIAL RECEIPT
HENRICO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
MARRIAGE LICENSE

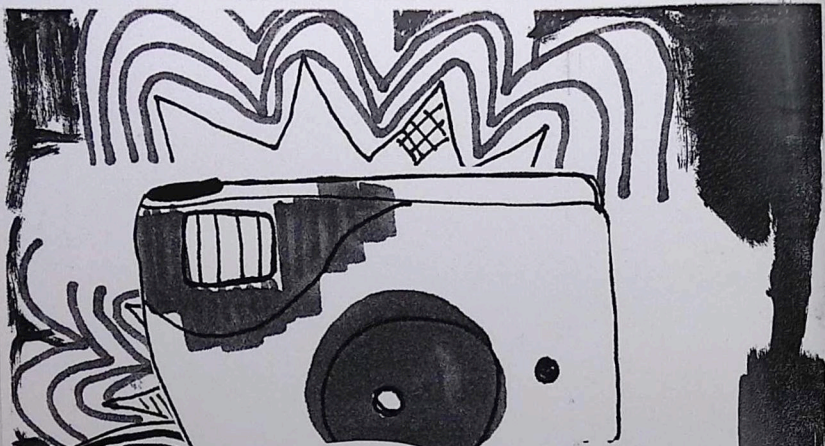
E: 02/20/07 TIME: 13:15:17 ACCOUNT: 087CML070220052 RECEIPT: 07000011746
HIER: RTJ REG: H037 PAYMENT: FULL PAYMENT
TRUMENT : 070220052 BOOK: PAGE: RECORDED: 02/20/07 AT 13:15
ROOM: KAIN, WILLIAM HOWARD III LOC: CI
RIDE: SUDDUTH, MARIE

EIVED OF : SAME
ASH: $40.00
RIPTION 1: MARRIAGE LICENSE #165
2:

DESCRIPTION	PAID	CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAID
MARRIAGE LIC. FEE	10.00	103	MARRIAGE LICENSE	20.00
FEES - COPIES	.50	315	MISC. FEES & COMM.	2.50

TENDERED :	40.00
AMOUNT PAID:	32.50
CHANGE AMT :	7.50

CLERK OF COURT: YVONNE G. SMITH



5. Going to the House

We got lost on the way to the house of Karen A. Luzier "Celebrator of Marriages" I started to cry

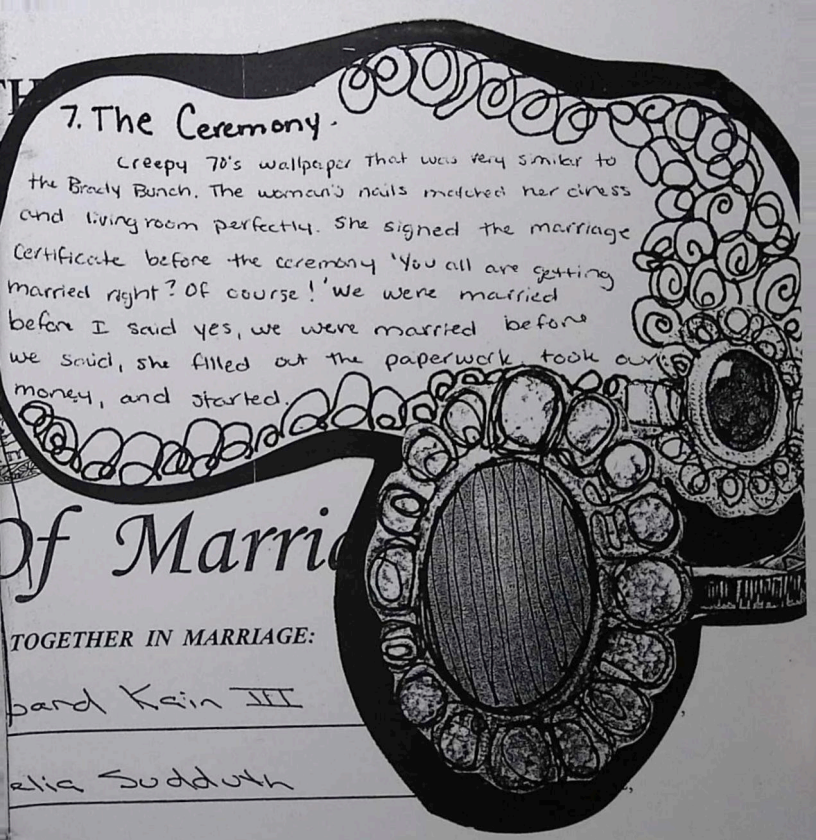
6. At the apartment

I didn't want to get out of the car, you asked if I was ready, I asked you if you were sure - somehow we managed to walk up the stairs - Erin taking pictures on the Kodak point and click, John still drunk from all the drinking the night before

(could I claim it wasn't happening - could I convince a judge that I was still drunk the next day and the marriage was false?)

7. The Ceremony.

Creepy 70's wallpaper that was very similar to the Brady Bunch. The woman's nails matched her dress and living room perfectly. She signed the marriage certificate before the ceremony 'You all are getting married right? Of course!' We were married before I said yes, we were married before we said, she filled out the paperwork, took our money, and started.



Of Marri

TOGETHER IN MARRIAGE:

bard Kain III

elia Suddath

nrico , VIRGINIA,

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

bruary 20, 2007

uary 20, 2007

(Signature of Officiant)

Celebrator of Marriage

(Title of Officiant)

VS 3B 7/06

THIS IS NOT A CERTIFIED CERTIFICATE

William Howard Kain III

(Feb. 20, 2007)

SERVICE of HOL

It is our privilledge to gather today in th
man and this woman as they join their live

It is, therefore, not to be entered into u
reverently, discreetly and in the eyes of

I charge you both to remember that marriag
of a man and a woman who accept themselves
to be faithful, responsible, loving, and l
any selfish reservations and keep them as
abiding joy and security to yourself and a

Yes, you did, our marriage bought you another ceramic deer for your collection

THE WEDDING

Will, Will you take this woman as you
in tender love and honor, offering her enc
you live with her and cherish her as love
moment and forever? → you said 'Mos
so you

Emmy, will you take this man as your
in tender love and honor, offering him enc
you live with him and cherish him as love
moment and forever?

If then Will and Emmy you h
sacred relationship, I ask that you join r

I, Will take you Emmy to be my we
this day forward, for better, for worse; f
health; to love and to cherish; til death

I, Emmy take you Will to be my wed
this day forward, for better, for worse; f
health; to love and to cherish; til death

Marie (Emmy) Amelia Sudduth

MATRIMONY

ou, John, Erin

s place to share in the uniting of this
together in marriage.
→ creepy woman's house w/ 70's wallpaper
advisedly or lightly, but rather I think
od. she doesn't leave the house
is a covenant. It is a lifelong union
as whole persons and promise to each other
yal. If you will take these vows without
bond of honor, your home will be an
blessing to others.

LEDGE

wife? Will you be faithful to her
uragement, and companionship, and will
id respect would lead you from this
definitely, she didn't find it funny. had to repeat it
usband? Will you be faithful to him
uragement, and companionship, and will
id respect would lead you from this

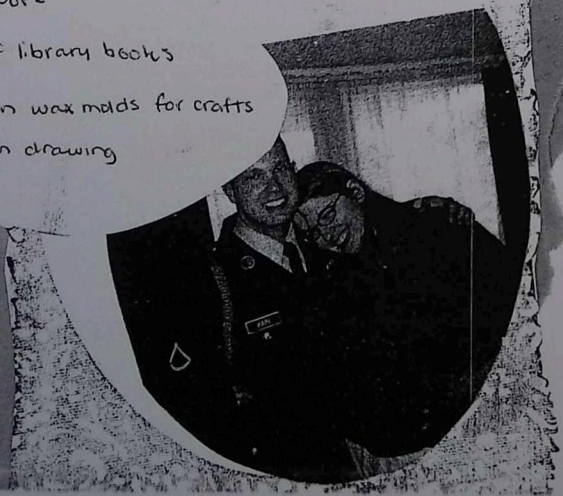
ve chosen each other as partners in this
ght hands and repeat these vows after me.

ded wife, to have and to hold from
r richer, for poorer; in sickness and in
o us part. This is my solemn vow.
→ p-o-o-r-e-rrrr
ed husband, to have and to hold from
r richer, for poorer; in sickness and in
o us part. This is my solemn vow.

8. Going To Work

After the ceremony we got a picture, some candy,
id paperwork for changing my name
io Thank you). The earth didn't split open
e I thought it would, the day didn't stop, and
ter lunch I had to go to work. Feb. 20th '07

ass
,et married
jo to work
drop off library books
ork on wax molds for crafts
work on drawing



Weddings can be categorized in two different ways: elaborately planning affairs with third cousins and every friend the couple ever made, or spur-of-the-moment events that some family members have yet to hear about (don't tell Marie's grandparents-they still don't know). Marriages, however, are defined by the lives that each couple spends with each other.